NOTE.

It will be noted that the later Records indicate a considerable indecision on the part of the Grand Chapter with regard to places of meeting in Boston; committees being frequently raised to secure a place for the next meeting after—and all this without a single sentence indicating the reason why this action was deemed necessary. The facts, as we get them from other sources, seem to be, that in 1818, the splendid hall fitted up in the new Exchange Coffee House for the use of all the Masonic bodies in Boston was consumed by fire, with a great proportion of the Masonic paraphanalia, probably including properties belonging to the Grand Chapter.—This hall had been but recently occupied, and its destruction seemed to put the fraternity afloat for a season, and led it to seek only temporary quarters. The next meeting of the Grand Chapter, a month after the fire, was held at the Commercial Coffee House. The old hall in Ann St., now North St., which had been abandoned, was again temporarily fitted up for meetings, and there the Grand Chapter assembled for a year or two, until a lease had been taken of apartments in the Old State House, where for nearly ten years the fraternity found a home. In 1832, the Masonic Temple, now the U. S. Court House, was erected, and of course that at once became the permanent home of the Grand Chapter. Between the time of leaving the Old State House and entering upon the enjoyment of the pleasant places in the Temple, meetings were held in Washington Hall, on Washington St., opposite Franklin. Thus it will be seen, the Grand Chapter changed its quarters many times—from Ann St. to the Exchange Coffee House, from the Exchange Coffee House to the Commercial Coffee House, from the Commercial Coffee House to Ann St. again, and from Ann St. to the Old State House—all within the period from 1817 to 1821.

The earlier meetings of the Grand Chapter had been held at the Green Dragon Tavern, a place of historic note as connected with revolutionary times. This property has, for more than a hundred years, (since 1764,) been in the possession of St. Andrew's Lodge of Boston. Early in the century, the Hall in Ann St. was fitted for use, and there the meetings of the Grand Chapter were held until 1817, when it removed to the Exchange Coffee House. This was the most magnificent building in the city, and probably the largest hotel building in the United States. There the fraternity, which had been scattered in various halls, was first centralized, and united in preparing and decorating a place for their common occupancy on a lease of ten years. These quarters were probably the handsomest and most convenient of any the craft had dedicated in the whole country. In November, 1818, they were consumed by fire.

Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

1821.

ANNUAL MEETING.

At an Annual Meeting of the M.E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, held at Mason's Hall, Newburyport, on Tuesday, the 11th of September, A. L. 5821.

PRESENT:

M.E. JONATHAN GAGE, . .	Grand High Priest.
E. HENRY FOWLE, . .	Deputy Grand High Priest.
" CALEB BUTLER, . .	Grand King.
" JAMES MORSS, . . .	Grand Scribe.
" THOMAS P. JACKSON, .	Grand Treasurer.
" JOHN J. LORING, . .	Grand Secretary.
Rev. and E. PAUL DEAN, .	Grand Chaplain.
E. WILLIAM BARRY, . .	Grand Marshal.
Comp. MICHAEL ROULSTONE, .	Grand Steward.
" DANIEL BAXTER, Jr., .	" "
" JOHN SCOTT, . . .	" "
" JOHN COOK, . . .	" "
" STEPHEN S. HEDGE, .	Grand Inside Sentinel.
" JOSEPH CURRIER, . .	Grand Tyler.

Past Officers.

E. JOSHUA GREENLEAF,	E. NATH'L KNAPP, Jr.,
" WILLIAM WOART,	" HENRY PURKETT.

The following Chapters were represented, viz: — St. Andrew's, King Cyrus, St. John's, St. Paul's, and Mount Zion.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form.

The records of the last meetings were read and approved.

E. Comps. H. Fowle, W. Woart, and J. Howe, were appointed a Committee to examine the Grand Treasurer's accounts, and the records of the Grand Secretary, and to report what compensation shall be made them for their services the past year; having attended to the duties assigned them, reported as follows, which report was accepted.

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER,
Newburyport, Sept. 11, 5821.

We, the subscribers, appointed a Committee of the M.E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, to audit the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, with authority to examine and allow outstanding bills, and report a compensation to the Grand Treasurer and [Grand] Secretary for past services, have attended that duty, and respectfully report, that they find the accounts of the Grand Treasurer rightly cast and correctly vouched, and that there is in his hands, now due the Grand Chapter, seven hundred and sixty-three dollars and seventy-seven cents. The Grand Treasurer, with his accustomed liberality, declines receiving any compensation, for which your Committee consider him entitled to cordial thanks. The books and records of the Grand Secretary your Committee find in correct and conspicuous order; they cheerfully recommend that he receive forty dollars for his faithful services the past year.

Which is respectfully submitted by

HENRY FOWLE,
W. WOART,
JOHN HOWE, } *Committee.*

The Committee on charges against King Hiram's Chapter at Greenwich, reported progress, and had leave to sit again.

The following report of the Committee on the resolve of St. Paul's Chapter, was read and accepted, viz:—

The Committee, to whom was referred the communication from St. Paul's Chapter, ask leave to report, that they do not find any article in the Regulations, or in the Constitution of the State, or General Grand Chapter, respecting the names of candidates being inserted on the notifications for the meetings of Subordinate Chapters.

If, however, the by-laws of any Chapter require the names of candidates to be so inserted, then the warrant of a Grand Officer to dispense with the article which requires of the candidate a certain term of probation, does not dispense with the by-law requiring the insertion of the name; because, the Grand Officers, or even the Grand Chapter, have no control over the by-laws, or local concerns of a Subordinate Chapter, provided they are not repugnant to the Regulations and Constitutions of the State and General Grand Chapters.

Your Committee are of opinion, that the names of candidates for exaltation, should be invariably inserted in the notifications for the meeting at which they are to be ballotted for.

All which is respectfully snbmitted.

HENRY FOWLE,
ROBERT LASH,
HENRY PURKETT, } *Committee.*

BOSTON, Sept. 7, 1821.

The Committee on the regalia, &c., reported, that they had attended to the duty assigned them, and had provided such articles as were absolutely necessary; which report was accepted.

Voted, That the consideration of the report on the petition from Franklin Chapter, and the 12th article of the by-laws of this Grand Chapter, be postponed until after the next meeting of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

E. Comps. P. Dean and J. J. Loring, were added to the Committee on diplomas.

On motion, *Voted*, That a sum not exceeding sixty dollars be appropriated for the ensuing year by this Grand Chapter for the purposes of charity, and that E. Comps. H. Purkett, M. Roulstone, and D. Baxter, Jr., be a Committee to unite with the general charitable committees in Boston, in the distribution of this sum.

A report of a convention of High Priests was read and filed, stating that they had conferred the Order of High Priesthood on M.E. Comp. Richard S. Spofford, who had been duly elected High Priest of King Cyrus Royal Arch Chapter in Newburyport.

The following motion was read and accepted:—

Whereas much delay is occasioned in the Grand Chapter by the Secretary and Treasurer's books and accounts not having been examined previously to the annual meetings, therefore

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed at the annual communication, and immediately after the installation of the Grand Officers, to be styled the Committee of Fnance, whose duty it shali be to examine and audit all bills presented against the Grand Chapter, including the Treasurer's and Secretary's books and accounts, and report at the annual communications in September, previous to the election of the Grand officers.

The Grand Chapter having resolved themselves into a committee of the whole for the choice of officers for the

ensuing year, E. Comp. William Woart in the chair; E. Comps. Fowle, Dean, and Spofford, were appointed to collect, count and declare the votes.

The officers were then voted for, and the following companions were unanimously re-elected:

M.E. Comp. Jona. Gage of Newburyport,	Grand High Priest.
E. Comp. Caleb Butler of Groton,	Grand King.
Rev. and E. Jas. Morss of Newburyport,	Grand Scribe.
E. Comp. Thomas P. Jackson of Boston,	Grand Treasurer.
" " John J. Loring of Boston,	Grand Secretary.

The committee then rose and reported the foregoing elections, which were approved by the Grand Chapter.

E. Comps. Woart, Spofford, and Scott, were appointed a Committee to inform Rev. and E. Comp. Morss of his re-election as Grand Scribe, and request his acceptance of the office; he was introduced, and declined serving, whereupon *Voted*, That the Grand Chapter do now proceed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the non-acceptance of E. Comp. Morss. This being done, E. Comp. Roswell Lee of Springfield, was declared to be unanimously elected Grand Scribe for the ensuing year.

M.E. Jonathan Gage, E. Caleb Butler, Thomas P. Jackson, and John J. Loring, were installed into their respective offices, and sworn to a faithful discharge of their several duties.

The thanks of the Grand Chapter were presented to E. and Rev. James Morss for his services as Grand Scribe the two years past; also, to E. Comp. W. Woart, for his services as chairman of the committee of the whole, and to the committee for collecting, counting and declaring the votes.

The Grand High Priest was then pleased to re-appoint M.E. Comp. Samuel L. Knapp of Boston, as Deputy Grand High Priest, which office was declined at his request by E. Comp. Purkett.

M.E. and Rev. Paul Dean of Boston, was then appointed Deputy Grand High Priest, and being informed of his appointment by a Committee, consisting of E. Comps. Fowle, Greenleaf, and Baxter, he accepted, and was duly installed into the office.

The following appointments were then made, and the officers present were regularly installed, viz:—

E. Comp. WILLIAM BARRY, . .	Grand Marshal.
Rev. and E. Comp. ASA EATON, . .	Grand Chaplain.
" " E. L. BASCOM, .	" "
" " SAMUEL OSGOOD, .	" "
E. HENRY FOWLE, ...	Grand Visitor.
Comp. MICHAEL ROULSTONE, . .	Grand Steward.
" DANIEL BAXTER, Jr., . .	" "
" JOHN SCOTT, ...	" "
" JOSEPH T. PIKE, . . .	" "
" STEPHEN S. HEDGE, . . .	Gr. Inside Sentinel.
" WILLIAM EATON, . . .	Grand Tyler.
" JOSEPH CURRIER, . . .	" "

E. Comp. HENRY FOWLE,
" " HENRY PURKETT,
" " ROBERT LASH,
} Committee of Finance.

Voted, That the thanks of this Chapter be presented to M.E. Comp. Samuel L. Knapp, for his services as Deputy Grand High Priest the past year.

Lectures on the Mark and Royal Arch degrees were given, and the Grand Chapter closed.

Attest, JOHN J. LORING, *Grand Secretary.*

STATED COMMUNICATION.

At a Stated Communication of the M.E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, at Mason's Hall, in Boston, on Tuesday evening, December 11th, A. L. 5821.

PRESENT:

M.E. PAUL DEAN, . . .	Deputy Grand High Priest.
E. JOHN ABBOT, . . .	Grand King, *pro tem.*
" EZEKIEL L. BASCOM, .	Grand Scribe, *pro tem.*
" THOMAS P. JACKSON, .	Grand Treasurer.
" JOHN J. LORING, . .	Grand Secretary.
" WILLIAM BARRY, . .	Grand Marshal.
Comp. MICHAEL ROULSTONE, .	Grand Steward.
" DANIEL BAXTER, Jr., .	" "
" WILLIAM EATON, . .	Grand Tyler.
M.E. SAMUEL L. KNAPP, . .	Past Dep. G. High Priest.

The following Chapters were represented, viz: — St. Andrew's, St. John's, King Hiram's, Adoniram, Morning Star, St. Paul's, and Mount Zion.

The Grand Chapter was opened in due form, and several visiters were admitted by vote.

The records of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee on charges against King Hiram's R. A. Chapter at Greenwich, reported as follows, which was unanimously accepted.

The Committee on charges against King Hiram's Chapter, having taken into consideration the defence made by their deputation, which is herewith annexed, report that their statement offers such an apology as might in good conscience be accepted by the Grand Chapter, and recommend that the subject subside.

Signed, SAMUEL L. KNAPP, per order.

The following statement referred to in the above was read, and ordered to be placed on file.

The agents of King Hiram's R. A. Chapter in answer to charges presented against them, before the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, by Franklin R. A. Chapter, acknowledge the incorrectness and impropriety of those proceedings which are the subject of said charges or complaints, though they did think there were reasons existing at the time which would tend to paliate if not almost to justify the said proceedings.

Signed, E. L. Bascom,
John Warner.

A petition from several companions praying for permission to open and hold a Chapter at Princeton, in the county of Worcester, by the name of Thomas Chapter, was read and committed to E. Comps. John Howe, John Abbot, and D. L. Gibbens, who having attended to the duties assigned them, reported as follows, which report was accepted.

The Committee of the M.E. Grand Chapter, to whom the above petition was referred, having attended the duty assigned them, beg leave to report, that from the considerations and circumstances therein set forth, and from the representations of some companions possessing a knowledge of the facts, they do cheerfully recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Signed, John Howe, per order.

December 11, 1821.

A report of a Convention of High Priests stating that they had conferred the Order of High Priesthood on M.E. Comp. Daniel L. Gibbens, who had been duly elected High Priest of St. Andrew's R. A. Chapter, in Boston, was read and ordered to be placed on file.

The following statement was made by the Grand Treasurer, and ordered to be placed on file.

Boston, December 11th, 1821.

The undersigned appointed by the M.E. Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, (Sept. 12th, 1820,) a Committee to provide a suitable place for their future meetings, asks leave to make the following statement in addition to his former report, viz: that the hall in the Old State House intended for the future meetings of the several Masonic Societies in Boston, is now completed; that the whole expense of fitting the hall for Masonic purposes, including furniture, &c., amount to four thousand nine hundred and eighty-one dollars and ninety-eight cents; that it appears by the books of the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, he has received from the several Masonic Societies in Boston, the sum of five thousand dollars, leaving a balance in his hands of eighteen dollars and two cents; that the Grand Chapter's proportion of the above said $5000, including rent, taxes, insurance, &c., amounts by assessments, to four hundred and three dollars and forty-six cents, all which he has paid, viz:

For fitting hall, including furniture, &c.,	$360 00
" one year's rent, - - - - -	40 00
" Taxes, insurance, &c., - - -	3 46
Total, - -	$403 46

All which is respectfully submitted.

Thomas P. Jackson, *Committee.*

E. Comps. Jonathan Gage, Paul Dean, Henry Fowle, D. L. Gibbens, and John Abbot, were appointed a Committee to take into consideration the propriety of modifying one of the duties of Royal Arch Masons, and to report thereon.

The Committee on the communication from the Grand Chapter of Maine, reported progress and had leave to sit again.

The Committee on Diplomas presented a sketch, whereupon, *Voted*, That the Committee be requested to continue their sittings on the subject for the purpose of having an engraving executed of said sketch, or of any other design they may think proper, and the Grand Treasurer was authorized to pay the expense of the same.

The Grand Secretary was appointed a Committee to purchase of the widow of our late Comp. Edward Horsman, the Mark Plates owned by her, provided the same can be had for a sum not exceeding ten dollars, and the Grand Treasurer was authorized to pay for the same.

Lectures on the Mark and Royal Arch degrees were given, and the Grand Chapter closed.

A true record.

Attest,

JOHN J. LORING,
Grand Secretary.

STATED COMMUNICATION.

At a Stated Communication of the M.E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, at Mason's Hall, in Boston, on Tuesday evening, June 11th, A. L. 5822.

PRESENT:

M.E. JONATHAN GAGE, . .	Grand High Priest.
E. HENRY FOWLE, . .	Deputy Grand High Priest.
" HENRY PURKETT, . .	Grand King, *pro tem.*
" JOHN HOWE, . . .	Grand Scribe, *pro tem.*
" THOMAS P. JACKSON, .	Grand Treasurer.
" JOHN J. LORING, . .	Grand Secretary.

Comp. MICHAEL ROULSTONE, .	Grand Marshal, *pro tem.*
" DANIEL BAXTER, Jr., .	Grand Steward.
" WILLIAM EATON, . .	Grand Tyler.
E. ROBERT LASH. . .	Past Grand Scribe.

The following Chapters were represented, viz: — St. Andrew's, Washington, St. Paul's, and Mount Zion.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form, and several visiters were admitted by vote.

Records of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee on the propriety of modifying one of the duties of Royal Arch Masons, reported progress, and had leave to sit again.

The Committee on diplomas reported progress, and had leave to sit again.

The Grand Secretary reported that in compliance with the vote passed at the last meeting, he had purchased the Mark Plates belonging to the widow of our late Comp. Edward Horsman. Report was accepted.

Voted, That E. Comps. Henry Fowle, Thomas P. Jackson, and John J. Loring, be a Committee to provide a dinner for this Grand Chapter, and the representatives of Subordinate Chapters at the annual Communication in September next.

The following motion was read and committed to E. Comps. Robert Lash, John Howe, and Daniel L. Gibbens, to report thereon.

Moved, that a Committee be raised to take into consideration the 13th article of the General Regulations of this Grand Chapter, and to report their opinion on that part of said article relating to

the application of candidates for the degrees "laying over one monthly meeting."

The Committee having attended to the duty assigned them reported as follows, which report was recommitted to the same Committee, to be acted upon at the next annual Communication.

On the above motion, your Committee beg leave to report that the terms in said 13th article ought to be in accordance with the 4th section of the third article of the General Grand Chapter, that is, the application "shall lie over at least one meeting."

They therefore recommend, that the said article be so amended as thus to comport with the General Grand Constitution.

R. LASH, per order.

Voted, That E. Comps. R. Lash, John Howe, and Dan'l L. Gibbens, be a Committee to take into consideration the 14th article of the Regulations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter and see what construction can and ought to be given to the term *nearest*, therein, and to report forthwith.

The above Committee having taken the subject into consideration, reported as follows, which report was accepted, and the subject was recommitted to the same Committee to report thereon at the annual meeting in September next.

On the above motion the Committee are of opinion that the term nearest was meant to apply to the place where the candidate is domiciliated, but they think there is frequently a difficulty in this construction, as very often the candidate may reside in a commercial town, (for purposes of business) nearer to a Chapter, than his place of domestic residence is, and that the article ought to be so altered as to admit him to the degrees in the Chapter where he can receive them with the greatest facility and least expense of travel. They therefore recommend that a Committee be raised to take this article into consideration.

R. LASH, per order.

At a late Communication of the Grand Chapter, E. Comp. Henry Fowle was directed by the Grand High Priest to write to the several Chapters in the State of Maine and request a settlement of their accounts up to the establishment of the Grand Chapter of Maine. Comp. Fowle reported, that he had corresponded with the officers of the several Chapters in Maine, and that the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter had received a communication from the Grand Chapter of that State on the subject of the funds. It was thereupon *Voted*, That a Committee be raised to take the whole subject respecting the funds and the correspondence between Comp. Fowle and the companions at Maine into consideration and report thereon.

E. Comps. H. Fowle, D. L. Gibbens, J. Howe, Thomas Tolman, and T. P. Jackson, were appointed a Committee for the above purpose.

A communication from several companions at Porto Rico was read and committed to E. Comps. Paul Dean, Henry Fowle, and A. A. Dame.

Lectures on the Mark and Royal Arch degrees were given and the Grand Chapter closed.

Attest,

JOHN J. LORING,
Grand Secretary.

The following is a list of the Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts.

St. Andrew's, Boston,	*Established previously to the Grand Chapter.*	
King Cyrus, Newburyport,		
St. John's, Groton,	Charter dated	5803
King Solomon's, Charlton,	do.	5805
Washington, Salem,	do.	5811
King Hiram's, Greenwich,	do.	5815
Adoniram, Attleborough,	do.	5816
Morning Star, Springfield,	do.	5817
Franklin, Greenfield,	do.	5817
Rising Sun, Nantucket,	do.	5818
St. Paul's, Boston,	do.	5818
Mount Zion, Stoughton,	do.	5820
Thomvs, Princeton,	do.	5821

Communications to the Grand Chapter, may be directed to John J. Loring, Grand Secretary, Boston.